

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 17824 121645Z

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STATE FOR CU/EE, EUR/SOV

LENINGRAD FOR P&C

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OEXC, UR
SUBJECT: AMSPEC GEORGE SEGAL

REF: STATE 277342

1. DETAILED AIRGRAM ON SEGAL VISIT READY TO GO. MEANWHILE SUMMARY IS THAT SEGAL EXCELLENT SPOKESMAN FOR AND REPRESENTATIVE OF CONTEMPORARY AMERICAN ART. HE AND WIFE WERE DELIGHTFUL TO WORK WITH AND EMB RECOMMENDS THEM FOR AMSPEC GRANTS TO OTHER COUNTRIES IN EASTERN EUROPE.

2. PROGRAM INCLUDED OFFICIAL AND UNOFFICIAL MEETINGS WITH SOVIET ARTISTS AND LECTURERS UNDER AUSPICES OF UNION OF ARTISTS TO SELECTED ESTABLISHMENT AUDIENCES IN MOSCOW, LENINGRAD AND KIEV. TRAVEL TO TASHKENT AND SAMARKAND LARGELY TOURISTIC, WITH VISIT TO SCULPTOR'S STUDIO ARRANGED BY UNION OF ARTISTS IN TASHKENT.

3. SEGAL FOUND ESTABLISHMENT TYPES DULL, SMUG, WELL CARED FOR AND DOING UNINTERESTING WORK. THOSE NOT SO WELL CONNECTED ARE MORE INTERESTED IN WHAT GOES ON IN THE WEST, BUT EXCEPT FOR A FEW WHO HAVE DIED RECENTLY AND ONE IN MOSCOW MOST OF THEIR WORK IS DERIVATIVE AND UNIMAGINATIVE.

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MATLOCK

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